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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany/West Germany REPORT NO. CS-311/12358-67

SUBJECT New East German Attempt To Obtain The Release Of Heinz Felfe. DATE DISTR. 1 December 1967

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REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO. 23 November 1967

PLACE & DATE ACQ. Germany, Berlin (28 November 1967)

FIELD REPORT NO. EGB-23932

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: Intercepted Communication.

The East Germans are again pressing for the release of Heinz Felfe, former staff officer of the West German Federal Intelligence Service (BND) who was convicted on charges of espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union. A demand to this effect was conveyed by East German prisoner exchange lawyer Wolfgang Vogel to West Berlin lawyer Juergen Stange on 23 November 1967. Vogel told Stange that he must press for a decision on the case - the East could not continue to write letter after letter without receiving any response. Vogel warned that the time would come when the East Germans would make the release of Felfe a condition for the renewal of prisoner exchange negotiations.

Field Comment: East German demands for the release of Felfe have been made in previous prisoner release negotiations. In the past, the East German greed for the large sums obtained through prisoner ransom payments apparently caused the withdrawal of this demand as a condition for continuing negotiations.

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